



MI-CW1710

Michigan Crop Weather

April 26, 2010

Early Planting Progress

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending April 25, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 1.16 inches in the southeastern Lower Peninsula to 0.01 inch in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal in the east central Lower Peninsula to 2 degrees above normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. The week began with dry conditions, which allowed many farmers to progress in the field. Late in the week much of the state experienced some light rainfall, which prevented topsoil from drying out. Wet conditions slowed plantings, but benefited the already planted crops. Cool temperatures and morning frost caused some injury to fruit crops, but crop was ahead of normal. Field activities for the week focused primarily on planting and spraying corn and soybeans.

Field Crops

Above average temperatures aided growers in preparing and planting crops for the 2010 crop year. Planting was slowed by weekend rains. **Wheat** was progressing. There was almost no powdery mildew reported in the Thumb. In the southeast and Thumb, wheat was top dressed. In central Michigan, some fields may be plowed under due to poor stands. **Oats** were planted in much of the state. **Barley** was getting established. **Alfalfa** was seeded in some areas and fertilized in others. In the southeast, it is anticipated that the first cutting will be very soon. **Corn** and **soybeans** were being planted. Corn planting progress was the highest since 1976. On warm ground, in the south central, soybeans were germinating very quickly. Growers expect that all **sugarbeets** would be emerged by the end of April. The presence of flea beetles was large.

Fruit

Due to warm early spring weather, fruit development was more advanced this year than in any of the past 15 years. The extent of freeze damage from the two stretches of cold weather, April 10 and April 17-19, is yet to be determined. There has been some freeze injury, particularly in low areas. Dry soil conditions allowed producers to plant trees and small fruits in the southwest and southeast. **Apples** ranged from tight cluster in the west central to king bloom in the southwest. Spotted tentiform leafminer was flying. **Peaches** were early to full bloom in the west central and were full bloom in the southeast and the Grand Rapids area. European **plums** were at white bud/popcorn in the west central and at full bloom to shuck in the southwest. **Strawberries** were at trusses in the crown to trusses emerged across the southern part of the state. **Sweet cherries** ranged from 50-100 percent bloom in the northwest to past bloom and petals withering in the southwest. **Tart cherries** were at white bud/popcorn with few open flowers in the west central and were in full bloom in the southwest and southeast; growers in the northwest reported some damage. **Pears** were at open cluster in the west central and in full bloom in the southwest and southeast. **Blueberries** were at early pink bud in the southeast and pink bud to bud burst in the southwest. **Grapes** were at early bud swell in the northwest and at bud swell to bud burst in the southwest.

Vegetables

Growers were taking advantage of the unseasonably warm temperatures, experienced in recent weeks, by laying black plastic and planting some early season crops. In southwest Michigan, recent frosts have not created any problems; however, the impact of frost damage, in the Grand Rapids area, has yet to be determined. **Onion, carrot, celery, lettuce, beets, parsley, peas, and radish** seeding or transplanting was underway. **Cabbage** has been established for several weeks. Planting of **tomatoes** and **cucumbers** was underway in protective low tunnels. Overwintered **spinach** in the southeast was ready for cutting. Hothouse **rhubarb** was being cut and shipped. **Asparagus** was emerging and harvest was underway in the southeast and southwest. The weather has the Industry expecting harvest target dates for sometime in May 2010 in the West Central.

Soil moisture for week ending 04/25/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	6	16	73	5
Subsoil	2	19	75	4

Crop condition for week ending 04/25/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Pasture	1	7	27	55	10
Winter Wheat	1	4	19	61	15

Crop progress for week ending 04/25/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley, planted	53	34	16	27
Barley, emerged	9	2	0	3
Corn, planted	32	6	3	12
Oats, planted	83	71	46	53
Oats, emerged	46	28	9	11

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 04/25/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	67	20		121	55		0.02	0.18	0.44	0.44		
Marquette	66	19		114	43		0.02	0.18	0.44	0.44		
Stephenson	65	20		143	75		0.00	0.11	0.61	0.61		
Western UP	70	15	0	124	51	54	0.01	0.14	0.44	0.44	1.89	2.28
Cornell	63	27		97	54		0.00	0.17	0.75	0.75		
Sault St Marie	67	29		115	39		0.00	0.14	1.16	1.16		
Eastern UP	68	21	2	103	37	25	0.03	0.21	0.98	0.98	2.01	2.43
Beulah	64	27		145	74		1.28	1.35	3.19	3.19		
Lake City	66	25		143	81		0.45	0.47	2.65	2.65		
Old Mission	65	26		150	59		0.18	0.26	2.59	2.59		
Pellston	69	20		149	57		0.00	0.02	1.04	1.04		
Northwest	69	20	-1	141	65	71	0.38	0.45	2.32	2.32	2.21	2.69
Alpena	64	22		133	62		0.00	0.03	1.98	1.98		
Houghton Lake	66	25		151	76		0.33	0.48	1.99	1.99		
Rogers City	65	29		126	65		0.00	0.00	1.99	1.99		
Northeast	68	22	-1	144	68	64	0.12	0.23	1.96	1.96	2.10	2.52
Fremont	66	28		168	92		0.33	0.33	2.06	2.06		
Hart	64	26		151	79		0.21	0.22	2.55	2.55		
Muskegon	68	32		168	90		0.11	0.13	2.05	2.05		
West Central	68	25	-1	160	88	88	0.27	0.29	2.29	2.29	2.54	3.16
Alma	66	32		172	91		1.60	1.67	3.77	3.77		
Big Rapids	67	28		173	98		0.67	0.75	2.06	2.06		
Central	67	28	-1	172	93	99	0.91	1.00	2.48	2.48	2.46	3.07
Bad Axe	64	28		168	74		0.48	0.60	1.42	1.42		
Pigeon	62	25		164	69		0.52	0.61	1.71	1.71		
Saginaw	65	33		187	90		0.84	0.87	2.16	2.16		
Standish	64	25		169	83		0.52	0.63	2.23	2.23		
East Central	65	25	-3	162	79	96	0.60	0.68	2.25	2.25	2.04	2.55
Fennville	69	31		202	94		0.20	0.25	1.76	1.76		
Grand Rapids	68	34		215	109		0.44	0.57	3.79	3.79		
Holland	69	34		212	104		0.11	0.11	2.64	2.64		
South Bend, IN	67	32		233	126		1.19	1.20	2.35	2.35		
Watervliet	66	32		212	101		0.48	0.54	2.47	2.47		
Southwest	70	28	-1	207	107	115	0.43	0.49	2.48	2.48	2.73	3.41
Belding	66	30		184	87		0.35	0.37	2.54	2.54		
Coldwater	69	27		220	116		1.58	1.62	2.13	2.12		
Lansing	70	30		209	96		0.12	0.17	2.44	2.44		
South Central	70	27	-1	199	103	115	0.79	0.86	2.61	2.61	2.59	3.19
Detroit	72	36		226	126		0.87	1.15	2.25	2.25		
Flint	68	28		204	107		0.43	0.47	3.32	3.32		
Romeo	71	31		170	105		1.18	1.21	2.70	2.70		
Tipton	71	31		205	116		1.78	1.95	2.62	2.62		
Toledo, OH	71	33		225	139		2.58	2.69	5.18	5.18		
Southeast	72	27	-1	205	115	105	1.16	1.30	2.64	2.64	2.67	3.21

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.